

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : **Attn: APPLICATION BRANCH**

Akihisa HONGO et al. : Attorney Docket No. 2004_0291

Serial No. NEW :

Filed February 26, 2004 :

**SUBSTRATE PLATING APPARATUS
(Rule 1.53(b) Divisional
of Serial No. 09/945,711,
Filed September 5, 2001)**

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
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CLAIM OF PRIORITY UNDER 35 USC 119

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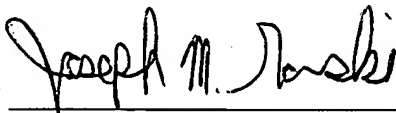
Sir:

Applicants in the above-entitled application hereby claim the date of priority under the International Convention of Japanese Patent Application No. 270493, filed September 17, 1997, Japanese Patent Application No. 71370, filed March 5, 1998, Japanese Patent Application No. 96974, filed March 26, 1998 and Japanese Patent Application No. 205138, filed July 21, 1998, as acknowledged in the Declaration of this application.

Certified copies of said Japanese Patent Applications are of record in grand-parent application Serial No. 09/154,895, filed September 17, 1998.

Respectfully submitted,

Akihisa HONGO et al.

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